William Jay
Sept 7— 1833

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Bedford - West Chester Co. N.Y. 7th Sept. 1833

Revd Sir

I was this day favoured with your letter of the 26th ult. & am gratified to find from it, that you are about publishing a book on Slavery. They who endeavour by prudent & lawful means to awaken public attention to the wickedness, cruelty & dangers of Slavery, & to the duty & policy of abolishing it, in my opinion merit the commendation & support of the friends of liberty, justice & christianity. The late disgraceful proceedings in Connecticut, & their connexion with the Colonization cause in that State, will it may be hoped, induce inquiry & reflection, & thus excite sympathy & exertion in behalf of the oppressed.

Accompanying your letter, is a declaration of certain abstract principles in relation to Slavery which you wish me & others to sign, & which you intend to publish with our names. I have certainly no desire to conceal my opinions of the moral & political evils of Slavery; of the safety & obligation of immediate emancipation, & of the injurious tendency of the colonization Society, & am ready on all proper occasions, to express them fearlessly & frankly. I have however doubts of the expediency & propriety of volunteering the publication of my opinions in the mode you propose, & until these doubts are removed, I cannot of course accede to your request.

Be so good as to desire your Bookseller to send me your book, with a note of the price, & the way he wishes me to remit it. The packet may be left for me at 398 Broadway, New York.

I have the honor to be Revd Sir
Your Obdt Servt
William Jay

The Revd Amos A. Phelps